

W. Douglas Tynan Ph.D., ABPP

Candidate for APA Council to Represent SCCAP

APA is a complex organization, with boards, committees, and council. Different groups are represented in practice, science, education and public interest. The one committee dedicated to Children and Youth sits in public interest, and I had served there in the past representing Div 54. As in health and mental health care, children and children's services are not always adequately represented. Children are generally healthy, have lower costs, and small number of APA members work for children, who make up 20% of the population but 100% of the future. I know from my work in health care financing that outpatient treatment of mental health diagnoses is the second highest expense in children's health services, and we should be the leaders there. As health care funding moves toward payment for outcome, psychology should be uniquely positioned to benefit from that emphasis. Implementation of behavioral parenting programs as routine care, adapting brief behavioral therapies to general pediatric settings, and helping to establish psychology-based therapies as first line treatment have been the focus of my career. I have worked at two children's hospitals, for Head Start, and currently consult the American Diabetes Association. In Council I will represent the interests of the Society for Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology, work with other child focused divisions and our colleagues who provide evidence-based therapy for other age groups. As we move forward it is critical to advance our science and practice, and to make sure that the needs of children and parents are well represented.